

A Clean Environment is Important to All of Us!

In the City of Carlsbad, storm drains flow directly into local creeks, lagoons and the ocean without treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for our natural environment and for people who live near streams or wetlands. Storm water pollution comes from a variety of sources including oil, fuel, and fluids, from vehicles and heavy equipment, pesticide runoff from landscaping, and from chemicals such as those that accumulate in untested sprinkler systems. The City of Carlsbad is committed to improving water quality and reducing the amount of pollutants that enter our precious waterways.



What About Charity Car Washes?

Hosting charitable car washes at your gas station is not illegal, however any wash water generated on site must stay onsite. Wash water should be contained, collected, and disposed of to the sanitary sewer. Instead of having the cars hand washed, consider sponsoring car wash vouchers for your automatic car wash and share the proceeds with the

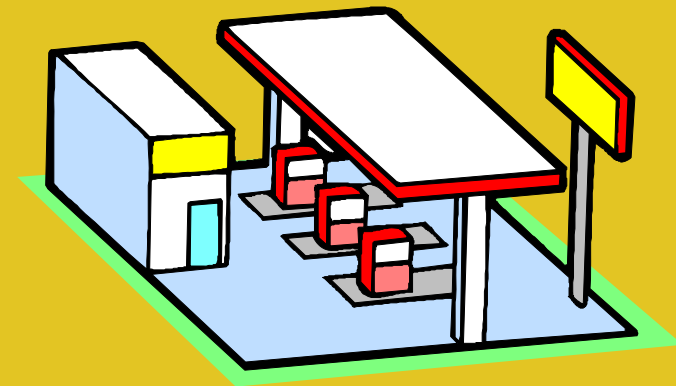
www.carlsbadconserves.org



City of Carlsbad
Environmental Programs
1635 Faraday Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Environmental Programs Hotline
760-602-4646

Best Management Practices for Retail Gas Stations



City of Carlsbad
Storm Water Protection Program
Storm Water HOTline
760-602-2799

Only Rain in the Storm Drain!

Pollution Prevention is up to YOU!!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Retail gas stations, of any size, are a potential source of storm water pollution. Fuel dispensing areas, waste receptacles, air/water supply areas and car washes can accumulate and discharge automotive fluids, grease, trash, and other materials that may be harmful to the environment. Discharging or disposing of these materials to the storm drain is PROHIBITED by law.



Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices, or BMPs, are procedures and practices that help to prevent pollutants such as chemicals, heavy metals, pesticides, waste, paint, and other toxic materials from entering our storm drains. Most businesses implement BMPs voluntarily, however gas stations may be required to incorporate BMPs into daily activities in order to comply with local, state, or federal requirements.

What YOU Can Do

- “Spot clean” spills as soon as they occur. Use dry methods such as rags or absorbent materials to clean up leaks and drips.
- Maintain and keep current a spill response plan. Regularly train all employees on proper methods for handling and disposing of waste.
- Perform regular visual inspections of the storm drain to identify unauthorized discharges or pollutants and clean as needed.
- Labeling a storm drain reminds people that anything discharged to the drain flows untreated to our waterways. The City has storm drain stencils for loan, or you may develop your own signs.

Fuel, Air, and Water Dispensing Areas

- Fueling areas should **never** be hosed down unless the wash water is contained and disposed of to the sanitary sewer.
- If possible, install a roof over the air/water supply area, or install a low containment berm around the area
- Have spill containment and absorbents readily available for any spills that may occur.



Outdoor Trash Areas

Minimize the possibility of storm water pollution from outside waste receptacles by doing the following:

- Use only watertight receptacles and keep lids closed
- Grade or pave the waste receptacle area to prevent run-on or run-off.
- Consider installing a roof over the receptacle area and/or a low containment berm around the area.

Automatic Car Washes

- Discharges from automatic car wash systems are **strictly prohibited**.
- Use a wash water containment mat, boom or other device to contain wash water in the car wash system. Pump or direct wash water to the sanitary sewer system.
- Use biodegradable, phosphate-free water based cleaners whenever possible.
- Store hazardous materials securely and make sure they are clearly labeled.



STORM WATER HOTLINE
760-602-2799

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